## CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method for reducing gases present in a layer of viscous liquid deposited on a substrate, said method comprising:

varying a transport of said gases proximate to said viscous liquid to increase said transport of said gases in said viscous liquid.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said transport is selected from a set of transports consisting essentially of ~~varying further includes increasing~~ a solubility of said gases in said viscous liquid and diffusion of said gases in said viscous liquid.

3. CANCELLED

4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein varying further includes controlling an atmosphere proximate to said substrate by introducing a fluid, therein, saturated with said viscous liquid.

5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 further including reducing a pressure of an atmosphere proximate to said substrate.

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7. CANCELLED

8. CANCELLED

9. (Original) A method for reducing gases present in a layer of viscous liquid deposited on a substrate, said method comprising:

defining a processing region proximate to said substrate by placing a template in close proximity with said substrate, said processing region having an atmosphere associated therewith; and

varying characteristics of said atmosphere to increase a transport of gases in said atmosphere to said viscous liquid.

10. (Original) The method as recited in claim 9 wherein varying further includes increasing a solubility of said gases in said viscous liquid.

11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 9 wherein varying further includes increasing diffusion of said gases in said viscous liquid.

12. (Original) The method as recited in claim 9 wherein varying further includes introducing, into said atmosphere, a gas selected from a set of gasses consisting of carbon dioxide and helium.

13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 12 wherein varying further includes reducing a pressure of said atmosphere.

14. (Original) A method for reducing gases present in a layer of viscous liquid deposited on a substrate, said method comprising:

placing a template in close proximity with said substrate, defining a processing region therebetween having an atmosphere associated therewith;

introducing a fluid into said atmosphere to increase a transport of said gases in said viscous liquid; and

reducing a pressure of said processing region by applying a vacuum to said processing region.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim **[[16]]** 14 wherein introducing further includes increasing a solubility of said gases in said viscous liquid.

16. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim **[[16]]** 14 wherein introducing further includes increasing diffusion of said gases in said viscous liquid.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim **[[16]]** 14 further including surrounding said template with a baffle placed in close proximity to said substrate, wherein introducing further includes introducing said fluid in a region disposed between said baffle and said template.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim **[[18]]** 14 wherein introducing further includes introducing said fluid into said atmosphere saturated with said viscous liquid.

19. (New) A method for reducing gases present in a layer of viscous liquid deposited on a substrate, said method comprising:

varying a composition of gases proximate to said viscous liquid to increase transport of said gases in said viscous liquid.

20. (New) The method as recited in claim 19 wherein varying further includes increasing a solubility of said gases in said viscous liquid.

21. (New) The method as recited in claim 19 wherein varying further includes increasing diffusion of said gases in said viscous liquid.

22. (New) The method as recited in claim 19 wherein varying further includes controlling an atmosphere proximate to said substrate by introducing a fluid, therein, saturated with said viscous liquid.

23. (New) The method as recited in claim 19 further including reducing a pressure of an atmosphere proximate to said substrate.

24. (New) The method as recited in claim 19 wherein varying further includes controlling an atmosphere proximate to said substrate by introducing a fluid, therein, to increase said transport of said gases in said viscous liquid.

25. (New) The method as recited in claim 25 wherein introducing further includes introducing said fluid

selected from a set of fluids consisting of carbon dioxide and helium.